

BULLSHIT MONTHLY

Covering the HardCore scene since 1984

#29

April/May 2014
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RED SCORE



Trenches



Out of Seattle, Red Score play powerful old-school hardcore, sufficiently moshy. SxE there seen to be a lot of SxE bands right now. Cost of cigs + booze going up?

Oh, it's tough to dislike Trenches from Oakland. Solid HxC, Boo Boo from Hunt- ing Party has great stage presence, guitarist from Replica, Top/Bandcamp put now.

Mike (former singer of San Jose's PV/Grind monsters SLAG now starting a record label, God Records. godlydisorder@gmail.com)

Members of Crucifix just got together to do a show playing the "Dehumanization" LP, in Oakland (in Feb). Punker heaven?

Faction

The Faction playing again? San Jose's own in San Jose (unfortunately 21+). Check em out May 10 @ the Black Club, + let's see how they've stood the test of time.

Roll/Sux are back. Word.

Hounds of Hate and an enthusiastic crowd at the rather low-ceilinged House of the Dead Rot.

(or May 24) @ the Cabaret in San CNE, and then the DAMNED in the area. Sure S. Fuckin Punk.

"I WASN'T COOL THEN + I'M NOT COOL NOW"
-I object

Stressors, Stay Scared, Secret People plus Altered Boys (New Jersey)

June 11 San Jo

"Let's go get cokes - anything else would make me choke!" is ironic, considering the venue... :)



DIG THAT GROOVE BABY!

Aw, yeah - Toy Dolls are back in the US after 11 years! Only 4 shows, and one is in SF! See you there April 14, (even tho it is the first night of Passover. I'll bring some matzoh.) Note, too: Toy Dolls never broke up. They're an '80s band that has toured the globe - constantly - and put out records for 30 years. And they're still great.

Meanwhile, the British Invasion from the 70s/80s continues, with Of Pollai Apr 21 @ Oakland Metro, Anti-Nukes League

80,000 chemicals approved for use + on the market have never been tested for safety. Just sayin...

How have I survived this long unaware of Reproach? Fucking Ratz + TNGH + thrashy hard fucking core singing about being punk and skating and all that. Best thing outta Belgium since the chocolate. "School can wait - let's skate!"

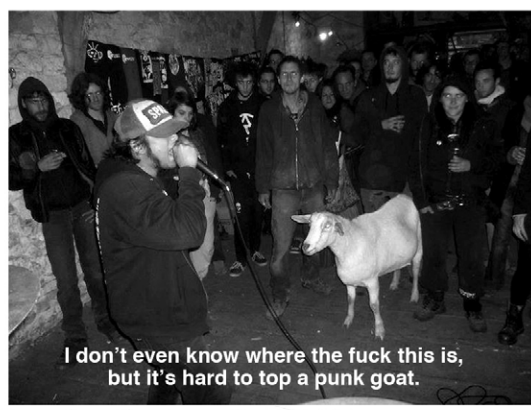
Awesome interview with Robert Refuse - longtime record label guy and scene supporter in Poland - on the Maximum Rock n Roll website. Refuse Records has over 100 releases - mostly SxE - including Coke Bust, Government Flu, Poison Planet, Catharsis, GO!, and great Euro bands like Appraise.

BLAST FROM THE PAST:

BROTHERHOOD



If you like SSD, or what was happening in NY + Boston in the 80's, you are sure to love the "Words Run... As Thick As Blood" LP from Seattle. 1989, Crucial Response Records. Brotherhood ruled the Pacific Northwest. Ran booked shows, ran Overkill Records, + his band just FUCKING SMOKED! Just reconnected with him after 24 years. Very cool.



I don't even know where the fuck this is, but it's hard to top a punk goat.

Remember - if you're reading the PDF version of BSM you can click on any band to be brought to their FB or Bandcamp page. So check em out - & tell em BSM sent ya.

REPROACH



WI

Best band name of the month goes to

WROONGG! From Szekes, Hungary. Euro-thrashy, moshy hardcore, with frantic vocals + interesting changes. Lyrics in Hungarian, but they are vegetarians. HxC, but not thrugg.



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Thanks to Elliot of True
Hearted for bringing
BSM flyers to Canada



If you haven't had your daily quota of thrashy-core goodness (and really - who ever has?) check out The Shining from Metz. Their LP "Rise of the Degenrates" on Farce Attack records will clear up that deficiency right away. Farce Attack, a French label, is worth checking out - lots of good bands (including Crippled Fox).

BSM needs art. Send it in, you fucking artists.



NYHC's The Last Stand have a new release out. Singer from Inhuman, rest of the band from Shut Down. Guest vocals from Lou SOIA (hr lov!) + the Vision singer, so you get the idea. For fans of Madball-style NYHC. (PS - YOT cover, too!) Moshy.

SANTA CRUZ
Catalyst from
Zero Boys
May 13
Meat and
Sune 2nd

Soey C. moving to Portland - is that the end of Volatile Substance? Bye bye, Bree. =C

You would think, huh? NOPE! Bassist is moving up too, + they'll just play less often.

Scully from Santa Cruz, have been described as "kindcore," "emotive power violence" and "screamo."

I'll content recording at House of Tort in Oakland.

Blast came and went. (they played Santa Cruz.) (twice.)

It's totally crazy - some people still believe that straight relationships are somehow more valid than gay relationships. How silly! I guess people will believe anything, won't they?

Yup → NO more No Mistake. iC But the split eps with BACK OFF! (San Francisco) + Sick Times (Germany) are still happening.



Torso play that intense modern Bay Area - style Hardcore we've all grown to love, and they grab you + thrash the fucking shit out of you. See em MAY 5 w/ the Flex from the UK - mid-tempo hardcore, power-fail (did I mention from the UK?) They've got recordings up. Some show: Violent Reaction, punky SxE HxC (maybe with a touch of O.I.?) New Gods from Seattle (+ from the 1970's comic book) + the relatively unknown Permanent Rain, overlooked band from our very own San Jo.

Just added - OBSTRUCT (now THREE UK bands!!!)



Volatile Substance



DHC

Jedi Scum, Under 15 Seconds & the almighty Venkman doing west coast tour (heading North) April 24-May 11. They have a new 3-way split 7" ep out. If you're not familiar, every Jedi Scum song is Star Wars themed, and every Under 15 Seconds song has an introduction longer than the song. Great live shows.

Just saw Counter XXX recently, an SOLA-Sounding Bay Area straight edge band (I know, I know - isn't that a contradiction in terms?). Members of Skin Like Iron, Secret People + Stressors. Demo out, + CRUCIAL logo (on shirts + stickers). Love it.

1/2 galaxy for, for 2nd...

Y'know, I don't care who your band is, or expresses this or touring that - I'm NOT PAYING 5 BUCKS for your fucking flipp or cassette, ok! Sheesh.

And if your band can't post your lyrics - what? Do you have something to hide?

Skitty Castle aka El Gato Negro now having shows as Dead Bug. Tiny, tiny room...

Hey, guys: Get a clue! Lift up the seat before you pee, + fucking wash your hands after. Someone needs to fucking tell you this? sheee-it.

ExV play noiszy "Grind/PV/Hardcore" - not always my cup of tea, but enough HxC in the mix to keep my interest. EP just released - free download. Lots of more samples. LOTS!!

GO! only played all-ages shows in 1989-91, and 2006, but then did a couple of 21+ gigs in 2007. No Mistake did some of both. Why the change? Although I prefer all-ages shows (there's certainly more energy when the kids are there, and it's not exclusionary), that's not always possible. Ideally, the best situation is probably a show where all-ages (or 16+) can get in, but 21+ gets ID'd & can drink. I don't drink myself, but the world doesn't revolve around me. This world - and the scene - is full of all types of different people, in different situations, with different needs.

Which makes it incredible that Godstammer will be Apr playing there with SS's Dead Pressure, Cave Spire (LA) + 1 more band. Man, that's fucking crazy.

To Counter Counter, here's DHC ("Drunk HxC" up at Eli's in Oakland. They've got a rather enjoyable 7" ep out.

If the place survives that crazy Apr. 11 show, on Apr. 25 are outside looking in. Criminal Wave + Dust off. Life can be ok at times.

Not everything in life has an easy answer. To me there's no "right" or "wrong" here - no need for a "winner" and a "loser" in the conversation. Just an understanding that not all people are identical, and that that's ok. At least that's the way I see it.

Counter



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Ali of THE SWAMP



Ali: When you're working the sound and doing the door and making sure everyone had what they needed. It's just a lot of shit. We had a lot of people who said "Yeah, we'll help out" and then they would just get wasted and then you're on your own. It can be overwhelming, but it was a lot of fun. Always the clean-up is like "Holy shit!"

BSM: What was the most memorable show of the tour?
Ali: That had to be Tijuana. It had the feeling that I remember from when I was a kid and I liked the most. Having a bunch of people come out to see a band they never even heard of, just because there was a show happening. Not because it was cool or there was some big band. People were getting into it.

BSM: What are some of your songs about?
Ali: I actually own it. BSM: Wow. I'm so used to everyone renting.

Ali: When the market bottomed out, it was ridiculously cheap. I got pretty lucky, and I specifically wanted a spot I could have shows at. It was perfect, because there was one neighbor, and a parking lot, + an empty lot, + a freeway. BSM: Were there ever concerns about noise?

Ali: Never. Cops never got called. We would have like full-on brawls in the streets, stopping traffic with 30 people just beating the shit out of each other. The neighbors are super awesome.

BSM: Was there a lot of violence?

Ali: No, not a lot. But there were times it could get pretty bad. Not hospital bad. Because we had neighbors I would try to have shows end at 11. We would shoot for that, not go super late. Keep people off the streets. Keep it low profile so our neighbors wouldn't get pissed. Minimize our impact.

BSM: So 4 years?

Ali: Yeah, like 3 shows a month. It was really fun. Some really good fucking shows. Awesome, awesome things all around. Good people, good bands. Awesome bands.

Ali booked shows out of her house for 4 years. Pretty awesome place (no mistake played there twice). We spoke to her in Oakland in March.

BSM: So who came up with "The Swamp"?

Ali: That was me, because every winter when it rains, it floods.

BSM: Did that happen during shows?

Ali: Well, we would try not to book too many shows when it was super raining. Yeah, sometimes it would be sketchy because the wires are on the floor, and there was bad grounding, as well. People would get shocked sometimes. It was all good fun.

BSM: Were there any shows where you thought "That was so awesome! I can't believe I put on that show!"

Ali: Well, I wish that my memory was better, because it all pretty much got blended into one, really long show. (laughs) But a really epic awesome show. One of the best shows was the Lake Bust show, actually.

BSM: That must've been jammed!

Ali: Yeah. Athena booked that.

BSM: Were there any shows where you thought "Oh god, how did I get through that?"

Ali: Yeah, almost all of them. (laughs) Almost all of them. It's a lot to tackle at one.



I interviewed Anti-You from Italy after their show at Eli's in Oakland in March. This was their 2nd US tour, but the first time on the west coast. I spoke with singer Andrea.

BSM: What was the most memorable show of the tour?

Andrea: That had to be Tijuana. It had the feeling that I remember from when I was a kid and I liked the most. Having a bunch of people come out to see a band they never even heard of, just because there was a show happening. Not because it was cool or there was some big band. People were getting into it.

BSM: What are some of your songs about?

Andrea: The lyrics I write are very personal, I suppose. I get inspired by the positive and mostly negative things I see around me. I don't anyone to relate to them in any way - they're just a personal outlet for the things that frustrate me.

BSM: Thoughts about America on this tour.

Andrea: One thing that really stuck me on this tour are the distances that people need to drive their cars to get from point A to point B. The places we've been to haven't been like the cities we're used to at home, where people can actually walk around, there are opportunities to socialize. Like LA - there's no street life. But maybe the Bay Area is different. We just got here tonight.

I'll come up with better questions next time, I promise!!!



Anti-You



No room for the Needles interview. Tough shit on you. Gotta wait til next issue.

BSM: Thanks so much for doing that.

Ali: I would love to do that again - just not in my house. You know I super down to start in some warehouse space or something. Just not in my house.

See Ali play drums in Reckless.

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"90 Days of Summer" at the Rock Shop (all-ages place here in Sat 30). 5 tuning, Mar 1st. Not all punk/HxC (like 7 Promoters are putting shows together) but still - 3 months of shows every night? SCARY.

I'm working on a new band, need bassist + drummer. More like side project, 1-2 shows a month. Will sound like no mistake Interested? Drop me a line.



From (Czech) comes Demoralizer metalish HxC

W 2 crazed, gruff singers 7' up out now. Lyrics are fun/pissed, talking about punk & scene stuff politicians etc. Fun, not so serious.

I'm not sure how to review Deathgave, but I think their demo made my ears bleed.

The rather talented No Limbs from Oakland will have a new 3-song cassette out mid-May (in time for a short PNW tour with Living Eyes. But will they ever play the Oakland Arena? Only time will tell.



New book coming out about City Gardens, the club in NS that had shows like, forever. "No Slam dancing No Stagediving No Spikes" Even appeared on the Daily Show to talk about the book! (Jon Stewart was a bar tender there.)

Blood Red "Seize You"

OK, this is a beautiful record: single-sided red vinyl, screened on the other side, die-cut screened cover, color poster insert. Music is chunky punky HxC, some post-hc, a little noisy at times. The singer reminds me of the Sex Pistols (really). Lyrics are interesting and well-written (better than most), but then you get to "Shed the Shakes" "What's the point in a mate? All they do is suffocate. Never a reason, never to need. When your body lies next to me, I pray for your death. Family is a lie - caring for the dead." and y'know, that's kinda ew and I'm just not into the record so much anymore.

SNFU were amazing live back in the 80's. Are they still?



SNFU

Got the Stillborn LP + CD mailed last issue. Like a Zillion Songs from a bunch of demos from 1986-88. If you're into NYHoods, Krakdown, Token Entry, Warsaw. Like CBS Pyramid mid-80's



So much hardcore, so little time

All the news that fits
Another local band with a demo out + playing shows is Dustoff. Couple 8 y's also play in Beat Guts. (I would say "also retired" a member or two of Stressors, but I think that's like half the bands in the area). Their 6-minute demo features Franz, SSD-like vocals and an east-coast-meets-avant-garde hardcore style. So early 80's ish, but has it's own style. kinda dirty, kinda noisy some.



Zero Progress - funnest band in hardcore, yet so many take them so, so seriously.

INFINITIES

I missed Solinas Punks Infinities at their SS show with Jobi Chaos, but they'll be back at Guitar Wars May 4 with Erkma. Twist (from SPZ) File me under: easily amused

The last little spaces are always the hardest to fill. + then features Guitar Wars (Jim told) is another music shop starting to have shows. I guess kinda like the Rock Shop.

Oh, so I got asked to review Explosion Theory except... um... well, they're really more metal/rock than hardcore, so I'm not sure exactly what to say about them - except, I guess, what I just did. But cool if you're into rock/metal. Sometimes you're Federation, sometimes you're Borg or Romulun, y'know.

TRENCHES

More TRENCHES from Oakland (see page 12)

All we need is love, tra la la la



TIMEBOMB

TIME BOMB

Timebomb

Stripped down HxC from Time Bomb, from New Jersey. "let it Go" came out last year. "No Values" 4' up out this summer - preview it on Bandcamp. I recommend!

Save the earth Buy less crap.

ADULT CRASH



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

OK, so if you're gonna name yourself after a Minor Threat song, you'd better a) be straight edge, and b.) play some killer hardcore. "Unfinished Business" doesn't disappoint in that regard. Tough, east coast style hardcore. Check em out.

ADULT CRASH

Keeping with that theme, Problem with Dragons describe them - Sees as sci-fi stoner rock, so if you're into that... what else can I say?

\$3.99 a gallon? FUCK!

She's not on the menu

Ref. J.W. = rock, if you like rock this is for you.

WB RD

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La Plebe live at the Rock shop May 10 with Anti-Social, F.V. X., The Infirmities (playing San Jose a lot recently) + Diogenes (playing "Starts" @ 7:30)
Just added: Uter Failure

Update - nah, I didn't see Toy Dolls. Heard they were great, as expected. Ah, well. I guess that's what YouTube is for...

The Light features Power Couple Ruby (from No Statik) and Boo Boo (from Hunting Party) and Trences - see page 1), Johnny from Die Hard on guitar, and Anton from Sunday Morning Ginsters. Out now is "The Restless Tide," on cassette + bandcamp. Lyrics are brilliant, but expect light, breezy poetry with titles like "We're Burning Alone," "All is Darkness" + the positive, YonhoF today inspired "All of the Horrible Potential of the Universe," with No Statik not playing too often, The Light will supply your daily dose of d-beat goodness, + Ruby is Ruby live. The light light light. bandcamp.com



The Light



DHC

One thing for sure about Volatile Substance - You can't ignore the singer! Chris from Deadpressure drums, but as mentioned on page 2, shortly they won't be playing much. Short tour first, tho.



Volatile Substance